

THE HERBARIUM OF THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANICAL CLUB.

WALTER DEANE.

As the exponent of the flora of New England, the Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club is the object toward which much of the activity of the Club is directed. It is the purpose of the members to illustrate our flora by flowering and fruiting specimens of every species known to occur within New England. It is also desired that each species shall be represented from numerous stations in order that it may be shown under all the varying conditions of exposure, soil, latitude, altitude, and the like, offered by our six states. Especially important is this in these days of close study, when new species are continually being distinguished from those hitherto recognized.

The Herbarium was started in the spring of 1896, and at the date of writing, January, 1899, it contains 10,962 mounted and classified sheets of phanerogams and vascular cryptogams, besides a considerable quantity of bryophytes and thallophytes, as well as phanerogamic *inserendæ* which have not as yet been incorporated in the organized collection. In addition to many contributions from the various members of the Club, the following valued accessions have been received by gift: Many duplicates from the Gray Herbarium, including a considerable part of the collection of the late William Boott; a carefully prepared set of plants from Mr. J. H. Whittemore, illustrating the native flora of his estate in Middlebury, Connecticut; the herbarium of the late Herbert A. Young, including the plants enumerated in his Flora of Oak Island, Massachusetts; the entire herbarium of the Metropolitan Park Commission, representing the flora of the large park-reservations about Boston; the New England plants from the herbarium of the Middlesex Institute, including those illustrating Dame and Collins' Flora of Middlesex County, Massachusetts. The late Edwin Faxon contributed a critically identified set of mosses from the White Mountains and other parts of New England. Mr. F. S. Collins has given about five hundred algæ, mainly marine, while other members of the Club have made contributions in the same group.

The Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club, thus excellently begun, must, as it is further developed, eventually become an important factor in research work upon New England plants, while the

fullness of its representation, may contribute much to the completeness and accuracy of future works upon the local flora of the region.

These being the worthy objects for which the Herbarium is being developed, no hesitation is felt in soliciting the interest and coöperation of botanists in all parts of New England. Well-prepared specimens of plants, both of rare and common species, will be gladly received for the Herbarium and desired information in regard to them given when possible. It is very essential, however, that each specimen should be accompanied by a neat label written in ink and stating the exact place and date of collection, habitat, and collector. It is the policy of the Club to incorporate in its Herbarium no specimens which are accompanied only by vague or imperfect data.

The Herbarium is located in the botanical section of the University Museum, Oxford Street, Cambridge, Mass., a room for the purpose being at present loaned to the Club by Harvard University.

CHRYSANTHEMUM SEGETUM, L., AT MARION, MASSACHUSETTS. — This European plant has been found naturalized at several distant places in North America, such as California, Schenectady, N. Y., and some of the eastern seaports. As far as I know, it has not been seen in New England until last summer, when I found a plant growing by the roadside at Marion, Mass. In appearance it resembles the common species, *C. Leucanthemum*, except that the whole plant is rather lower, with larger leaves, and short, leafy peduncles. The rays are bright yellow, rather broad, and emarginate. The occurrence of this plant at a place like Marion (on Buzzard's Bay) is probably due to another accidental introduction of European seeds, since there is only very indirect communication with any of its other American stations.

J. MELVILLE HUNNEWELL.

FUNGUS NOTES.

H. WEBSTER.

TRICHOLOMA EQUESTRE (L.) Fr. was noticeably abundant in dry woods in eastern Massachusetts last October, and received much attention from fungus-lovers and toadstool-eaters. Unlike many other Tricholomas, it was found even by novices to be rather easily determinable. The plainly viscid pileus, which even in dry weather is apt